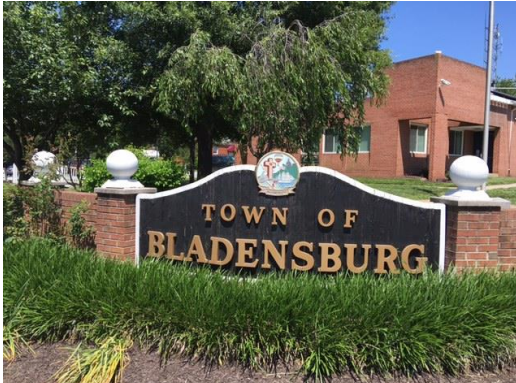


Town Administrators February 2017 Monthly Report





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dear Mayor and Council,

As you are aware the Town requested full reimbursement through the County's tax differential on the purchase of Town vehicles. However the County's Office of Budget and Management (OBM) denied the Town's request for reimbursement for vehicles purchased upfront. This decision seemed to be an arbitrary and unfair decision. The County allowed for a tax differential by municipalities that opted to lease or take out loans to purchase their vehicles and received reimbursement. Our Town Treasurer appealed this decision and OBM denied our appeal.

The Mayor and I attended the County Executives municipal budget listening session that was scheduled through the Prince George's County's Municipal Association. During the meeting both the Mayor and I explained it is not fair to penalize municipalities that are being good stewards of their taxpayers dollars by paying for their vehicles upfront and not carry debt on the vehicles. We stated our residents are still paying for the purchase of these vehicles whether they are purchased upfront or purchased through a lease or loan, and it is not fair to penalize our citizens by not reimbursing them through the tax differential. The County Executive overturned the OMB's denial during the meeting and informed all municipalities that had been denied their request that they would be receiving letters stating the denial had been overturned. The County Executive stated a task force comprised of municipalities would be formed during the summer to help determine how to move forward with this issue in the future. This decision by the County Executive will result in an estimated \$90,000 back to the Town of Bladensburg.

As always, the Town staff and I will continue to make every effort to increase efficiencies in Town services as we serve the citizens of Bladensburg. On behalf of the Town staff, I hope you find this report to be an informative tool that assists you, the policy makers, in better serving the Town of Bladensburg, and provides transparency and useful information to the citizens and businesses of the community. I look forward to hearing any feedback you may have. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, and/or suggestions regarding this report.

CURRENT & UPCOMING PROJECTS

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Jacquelyn McCray from Managing Partners facilitated a community work session on February 28, 2017 to go over and review the Objectives, Goals and Strategies being proposed in the draft Strategic Plan. The proposed plan is based on the input from community meetings, interviews, surveys sent to both residents and businesses, and the Council work session held in November 2016.

The four goal areas proposed in the draft Plan include:

- Economic/Redevelopment
- Police and Public Safety
- Infrastructure
- Collaboration/Partnerships

Next Steps

- To adopt the proposed draft Plan during the Town Council's March 13, 2017 meeting.
- Develop a draft Action Plan to support the objectives, goals and strategies of the plan.

REDSIGING OF TOWN WEBSITE

Town staff has begun working on developing the content for the website and is working with MDA Technologies to determine what type of content to include and where to place the information within the site.

OTHER ACTIVITIES/INITIATIVES

CAPITAL PROJECTS

The Town Park is progressing. The Park update is expected to be completed by the end of March or early April 2017. The new Pavilion is in the process of being installed, the exercise stations have been installed and the new walking path is expected to be installed by April.

MEETINGS/EVENTS/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Town Administrator was involved in the following meetings/events and community outreach activities:

1. Attended the B5 Business Roundtable.
2. Attended the Parkview Senior Advisory meeting.

3. Attended the Emerson House Senior Advisory meeting.
4. Attended the B5 monthly meeting.
5. Attended the Elizabeth Seton Lunch with a Cop luncheon.
6. Attended a meeting at Community Forklift with the Town Administrators/Managers from Cottage City and Edmonston to discuss Community Forklifts Community Building Blocks grant and their Home Essentials grant process.
7. Attended the County Executives Municipal Budget listening meeting.
8. Met with the Mayor, Rod Barnes (Town Administrator from Edmonston), Stan Mosely (Town Manager from Cottage City) and Reverend Gail Addison to discuss Harvest Times Ministry's Summer Youth program.
9. Attended and participated in the first TNI Transition meeting.